GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3716
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2005
IMPORT OF MERCURY
Mandal Shri Sanat Kumar

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the import of mercury into the country is increasing year by year;

(b) if so, the details of its usage in the country;

(c) whether such imports may become a sort of dumping in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to prevent the same?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a) & (b): The import of mercury has shown a mixed trend. Mercury is used by industries engaged in making thermometers, barometers, electrical contacts, arc rectifiers, automatic switches, mercury vapour lamps and mercury-vapour boilers of large power installation etc. It is also employed in the electrolytic preparation of chlorine, caustic soda, acetic acid and acetone etc.

(c)&(d): Anti- dumping investigations are initiated on the basis of application filed by the domestic industry alleging dumping, injury and causal link between dumping and injury. Directorate General of Anti-dumping &Allied Duties(DGAD) investigates the existence and degree of dumping , identifies the dumped article, and submits provisional and/or final findings to the Ministry of Finance recommending, where appropriate , the amount of anti-dumping duty to be levied. Applications alleging dumping and injury submitted by domestic industry are processed as per the procedures and within the time limits specified under the Customs Tariff Act, 1975 as amended in 1995 and the rules made thereunder.

DGAD has till date not received any application from the domestic industry, alleging dumping of Mercury.